



H CENTRAL HISTORY

Summer 2021

Central Washington University

History Department

Marji Morgan Trades History For Wine

Other people retire. Dr. Marji Morgan is just redirecting energy.

After sixteen years at CWU – first as a Dean and then as a professor in the History Department – Marji Morgan is departing to follow her love of vineyards and wine.

“When I came to WA in 2005 I knew I wanted to work in the

wine industry when I retired.”

On June 5, Marji started as a Tasting Room Associate at the Owen Roe Winery south of Yakima. When not in the winery, Marji will be biking, hiking, travelling, and working on her house. She will also continue her Lines On Wine podcast with Washington winegrowers. www.linesonwines.com

Dr. Morgan came to CWU as the Dean of the CWU College of Arts and Humanities (CAH) at CWU and saw it through the economic crash of 2008 and large changes in the administrative structure. “I

came here because I was impressed with the faculty and the university’s commitment to students and to excellent

teaching. I have grown more impressed every year. The highlight of my time here was attending student and faculty events on an almost daily basis and seeing the amazing work people were doing. It was also exhilarating to meet hundreds of

alums.”

After serving as Dean, Dr. Morgan returned to teaching History. “The biggest highlight for me since coming to the [History] Department has been working closely with students, especially on research projects. I have also really appreciated being part of a supportive department of creative and productive faculty and staff. I’m grateful for the freedom I’ve had to pursue new interests in wine studies

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CWU and Hawai'i Honor History Alumni

CWU and the College of Arts and Humanities honored **Myron Dobashi (BA)** as a distinguished alumni in a Spring 2021 virtual ceremony. He graduated in 1965 in History with minors in Geography and Aerospace Studies. A veteran of Vietnam, Dobashi is now a retired Brigadier General and former commander of the Hawai'i Air National Guard.

Dobashi came to CWSC (CWU) from Hawai'i and he recounts that the only time his mother traveled to the US Mainland was to see his graduation. This time his friends and family celebrated with Dobashi in Hawai'i in his hometown of Lihu'e. They were joined by the mayor, representatives from the offices of Hawai'i's governor and U.S. Rep. Kaiiali'i Kahele, and members of the National Guard who served under Dobashi.



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NEWS

FACULTY

Dr. Chong Eun Ahn

While continuing her book project, Dr. Ahn spent a hectic spring participating in various panels as the director of the Korean Studies Seed grant. She has discussed South Korea's #MeToo movement, Candlelight Protests, and the Brooks library's new subscription of The Korea Times. Most recently, she organized and moderated a public lecture by Dr. Michael Hurt entitled "The Battle for Normal and the Queering of Korea."

Dr. Marilyn Levine

Dr. Levine gave a Plutarchian analysis of two early Chinese Communist Leaders at Living the Socialist Modern Symposium a year-long virtual event at the University of Heidelberg in April. Dr. Levine has three articles to be published in the spring-summer: A quantitative study of a Soviet returned leadership group of the Chinese Communist Party during the 1920s, that relies on multivariate and network analysis (*Journal of Historical Network Research*); another article in the *JHNR* on the Chinese Biographical Database that Dr. Levine created in the 1990s and is using for

current research; and a Chinese article in *Digital Humanities* that will explore the founding of the European branch of the Chinese Communist Party, its leaders and networks. She is submitting for publication an article about one of the most eminent Chinese historians, and her book, *The Found Generation* has been translated into Chinese and should be published this summer.

Dr. Jason Dormady

The Latin Americanist from UNC Press published Jason's "God, Cleanliness, and the City: Local Uses of Hygiene and Anticlerical Language in Religious Conflict in Guadalajara, Mexico, 1939-1942" in January (Vol.64 (4), p.393-422). He also presented a paper (virtually) at the Conference on Latin American History in affiliation with the American Historical Association titled "Collective Marriage and the Quiet Secularization of Marriage and Mothers" as part of a panel on secularization in Mexico.

Dr. Daniel Herman

Dan's article, "The Twining Paths of Mormons and 'Lamanites':

From Arizona to Latin America," came out in the *Journal of Arizona History's* double issue this past fall (61, nos. 3-4, Autumn/Winter 2020, pp. 395-428). The *JAZH* editor, David Turpie, nominated the article for the Western History Association's Arrington-Prucha Prize. Dan's novel, *The Feudist*, has also met with some success, Readers Views having chosen it as best Mountain-West novel from a small and/or indie press (in addition to awarding it a bronze medal for historical fiction).

Dr. Josué Estrada

Dr. Estrada was hired by the CWU History Department during Spring 2021 quarter and will join the Department for the Fall 2021 quarter. He will teach courses on race in the United States. We will have more about Dr. Estrada in the Fall/Winter newsletter. Welcome, Josué!



(MORGAN, Continued from page 1)

and in the history of food and drink.

Marji shared the following advice for students: "University studies end with graduation but learning just begins to take off and really blossom after you get that diploma. Even if you stay in the same job all your life, which is not likely, you will have to

constantly learn new things for that job that your education never taught you. It is also very possible to refashion yourself for jobs you never dreamed of at the time you graduated. [...] You are never locked into a career or job, because you can always learn new things and go in totally different directions. The important thing is to keep an open mind, be constantly curious, and follow your passion."



Graduate Student News



Henry Jennings successfully defended his thesis, *Sport, Kul'turnost, and Physical Culture in the Khrushchev Era Soviet Union, 1953-*

1964. His thesis was chosen for this year's History Department Graduate Thesis Award and was also nominated to the School of Graduate Studies for the Comstock Thesis Award - which he was awarded as a co-winner. Henry will work for the upcoming year and apply for PhD programs this fall.

Holly Fleshman successfully defended her thesis, "Gender and Conservation: A Comparative Study of the Bison and Wild Horse Conservation Movements." Holly offers a nuanced appraisal of the life and legacy of Velma Johnston, aka "Wild Horse Annie," who—despite being a career secretary who lacked political and social connections—created a hugely successful

movement to protect wild horses in the 1950s-60s. She will continue her teaching at Cle Elum-Roslyn High School next year.



Jenny Findsen and **Kendal Ridgeway** will defend their theses in July 2021.

Cassie Crisman, who defended her thesis last spring, taught for the History Department during AY20/21 and will be attending WSU (Washington State University) for the PhD this fall.

Max Graham passed her MA exam during the W21 quarter.

Adam Robertson graduated with the MA in Fall 2020 quarter and will be teaching for CWU History at the Sammamish Center next year.

Upper Division Fall Courses

Tropics & The Modern World

with Dr. Jason Dormady

Africa to 1800

with Dr. Lacy Ferrell

East Asian Civilization

with Dr. Chong Eun Ahn

World War II in Europe

with Dr. Melissa Jordine

US Cultural History

with Dr. Josué Estrada

The 1950s

with Ken Munsell

Russia to 1881

with Dr. Roxanne Easley

Upper Division Winter Courses

Gender and Sexuality in Africa

with Dr. Lacy Ferrell

The Latin American Colonies

with Dr. Jason Dormady

Sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction

with Dr. Daniel Herman

Cold War

with Dr. Stephen Moore

German History Since 1815

with Dr. Melissa Jordine

Russia Since 1881

with Dr. Roxanne Easley

Teaching and Research Assistants, 2021-22

Lilian Alcazar-Oseguera, Jazmyn Bragg, Kevin Cassidy, Nathan Horton, Henry Jennings, Rachel Parrish, Hunter Rodgers, Kaelen Sauriol. KC Caty will work as a GA for Korean Studies

Interested in being a graduate student at CWU and earning a MA degree in History?

Send inquiries to roxanne.easley@cwu.edu.

Alumni News

Nicole Mozingo (BA, MA) “visited” campus as part of a virtual alumni day hosted by the College of Arts and Humanities. Nicole visited a history class and participated in a presentation to help students use their History degrees to find employment after graduation. Nicole works with a branch of the Department of Homeland Security.



Ryan Booth, (MA), is nearing completion of his doctoral dissertation at WSU. His topic is Native Americans as U.S. Army scouts. He’s comparing the Army’s use of Native American scouts to Britain’s use of so-called “martial races” in India (Sikhs and Gurkhas). What interests him as is partly what the scouts themselves thought of their role. He’s meanwhile teaching at WSU/Vancouver.

Talea Anderson (MA) is currently the Scholarly

Communications Librarian at Washington State University. She just completed a three-year Library Publishing Coalition Fellowship focusing on accessibility. You can read her reflection on accessibility here: <https://librarypublishing.org/fellows-journal-introducing-talea-anderson/>

Tamara Caulkins, (MA), continues to be busy in her work for the Douglas Honors College at CWU. Her article “Co-teaching Botany and History: An Interdisciplinary Model for a More Inclusive Curriculum” appeared in the September issue of Isis. She also presented at six conferences this year.

Jonathan Eldridge (BA) sent a note to the Department sharing some of his memories of his time at CWU. “I regularly say how I use my history degree from CWU every day in my work, and credit that to the faculty of the day, who helped me to think critically from different perspectives, see connections across eons and cultures, and conduct and present research through measured communication (credit to Dr. Beverly Heckart in particular for her demand that her students boil an issue or event down to its essence so she could know we truly understood its significance).” Jonathan is Assistant Superintendent/ Vice President of Student Learning & Success at College of Marin in California.

The department loves connecting with alumni, so please let us hear from you! Send updates of your current whereabouts and activities to dormadyj@cwu.edu.

A New Face of History

As the campus reopens for face to face classes in Fall 2021, a new face will greet people when they visit the History Department. Kristy Magdlin is now working as the Secretary of the History Department. She started in her position during the quarantine but working at CWU (and in L&L) is nothing new.

Kristy has 14 years of experience

at CWU. She worked in the offices of Teacher Certification, the President’s Office, the Athletics Department, and until 2015 was the Secretary for Philosophy and Religious Studies. She now has big plans for the History Department, hoping to organize and update the records system, and



update the Department website.

As the face of the Department, Kristy says she is “excited to get back on campus later this summer and the opportunity to meet with faculty and students face to face. The last fifteen months have been difficult for people emotionally, financially, and for some physically. My hope is to make everyone who walks through our door or reaches out to by phone or email truly feel welcome and know that we are back and ready to serve.”

Welcome to History, Kristy.